MEXICO

THE ORGAN OF THE METHODIST CHURCH OF MEXICO

Vol. 42 October - December 1952 No. 4

Unto us
a child is
born,
unto us
a son is
given.

Isaiah 9:6.

MEXICO

THE ORGAN OF THE METHODIST CHURCH OF MEXICO

PUBLISHED QUARTERLY

Ruth V. Warner, Editor

ADDRESS ALL CORRESPONDENCE TO

APARTADO 115 BIS, MEXICO, D. F., MEXICO

Free on request Donations appreciated.

DIRECTORY

Bishop, Dr. Eleazar Guerra, Balderas 47, México, D. F.

DISTRICT SUPERINTENDENTS:

Eastern District, Rev. Manuel Escamilla
Modesto Arreola 1650 Pte., Monterrey, N. L.
Western District, Rev. Fernando Acosta
Apartado 419, Chihuahua, Chih.
Mexico District, Rev. Luis C. Juárez
Aztecas 17, México 2, D. F.
Northern District, Rev. Rolando Zapata O.
Guerrero 38, Pachuca, Hgo.
Puebla District, Rev. Maurilio Olivera
2 Poniente 914 A, Puebla, Pue.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARIES:

Religious Education, Rev. Manuel Flores
Apdo. 3, México 13, D. F.
Evangelism, Rev. Nelson Velasco
Apdo. 26306, México 13, D. F.

MISSIONARIES:

CHIHUAHUA, CHIH.:

Mr. and Mrs. L. B. Newberry, (retired) Apdo. 11.
Miss Emma L. Eldridge, Apdo. 50.
Miss Olive I. Givin, Apdo. 50.
Miss Pearl L. Hall, Apdo. 186
Miss Irene Nixon, Apdo. 50

MEXICO

THE ORGAN OF THE METHODIST CHURCH OF MEXICO

Vol. 42 October - December No. 4

BLANCHE BETZ

Miss Blanche Betz, a greatly beloved W. F. M. S. missionary who gave thirty-five years of service to Mexico, went to her Heavenly Home on July 28, 1952, from Pasadena, California. During her years of retirement she had lived in Robincroft Rest Home. Among the saints of God Miss Betz now rests from her labors but her "works do follow" her in the lives of those blessed by her ministry.

GRATITUDE

MATILDE HOECK.

The principal of the secondary department of the girls' school in Pachuca recalls the influence of an outstanding missionary.

Many years have passed since, as a little girl, I arrived at our Methodist School in Pachuca. I often recall the moment when I was near to crying after leaving my home and family to enter this school, when a blond young woman with soft blue eyes took my hand and said: "How are you, Tillie? It will be nice to have you here." This was the hearty welcome of a remarkable

woman, a true friend, a noble teacher, and a devoted missionary known to many of us as Miss Blance Betz.

Miss Betz loved children, and soon we had a small world to ourselves under the name of "Sunbeams". The purpose of this Association was to teach us how to be useful and kind and thus serve Christ. Each of us learned to carry responsibility from childhood, and through the years that followed. Although of different habits and customs, she taught us to love and help each other. She influenced me greatly in my childhood. I learned to love and understand other people and learned to pray as she taught us, in a simple and plain way.

Later on, as my teacher, she was of great help in my life. There was discipline in all she did, no escape from duty, and still she was a great admirer of beauty. Roses in her garden, flowers in her rooms showed us how much she admired and loved God's great beauties.

It was a privilege for me to graduate while she was the principal of our Methodist School in Puebla. I worked with her for several years and during this time I came to understand more and more what a remarkable missionary she was. With the passing of years I have come to feel that Christian faith was the center of Miss Betz' work, and she passed on this faith to all those who lived near her.

The Lord has called her Home to rest, but the rich influence of her Christian life in Mexico will remain with us forever. To you, my dear Miss Betz, goes my personal gratitude.

— ● —

On August 8, 1952, Miss Maria Tovar passed away after a protracted illnes during which she received the loving care of devoted relatives and former pupils. Her long life had been devoted to educational work in schools connected with the church, and many, many women will greatefully remember the faithful service and gracious spirit of this outstanding teacher.

MARIA TOVAR

MABEL TAYLOR

The former principal of a large mission school in Mexico City records memories of her one time co-worker.

Again our Heavenly Father has called one of His faithful children to the Eternal Home to receive the "Well done; enter into the joy of thy Lord."

Maria Tovar was a daughter of one of the early stalwart preachers of the Methodist Church in Mexico. She graduated from the Normal School maintained in Puebla by the W. F. M. S., and began teaching in one of the schools organized by the church.

Later she became a member of the faculty of Colegio Sarah L. Keen, a primary and secondary school for girls in Mexico City. In 1927 she was named co-principal of the school, together with the technical principal, Miss Adelia Palacios.

Miss Tovar was of incalculable assistance in the activities of Keen School. The Parent-Teachers Ascociation, as well as the y o u n g, untried teachers benefitted greatly by her long experience and her tactful counsel. For many years she served as secretary and registrar; in this position she became well acquainted with the families represented in the school, and followed with interest and affection the progress of the children from grade to grade, and into the business world or married life, often helping them with wise Christian counsel.

Miss Tovar's daily life was a constant example of steadfast loyalty, patience, and faith in the ultimate triumph of the Kingdom of God. During one of the minor rebelions, the city was filled with rumors about the advancing army, and the supplies of beans and corn became very low. When asked about the advisability of purchasing additional quantities, Miss Tovar

answered that it didn't seem necessary to her, saying, "I have lived many years, but I have never seen the righteous lack for food and shelter."

One of Miss Tovar's outstanding characteristics was serenity of spirit; amid the perplexities caused by changes in the government's Department of Education, or in the midst of the hustle and bustle of a kermesse, or bazaar, she was as calm and serene as if entirely alone.

At a time when the enrollment in the school was very low, and other teachers were showing doubt and fears for its future existence, she camy and staunchly stood by the new principal, confident that He in whose name the school had been established would continue to guide and support it and them.

Miss Tovar's colleagues and former students will greatly miss her patient understanding, wise counsel and steadfast friendliness; they can never forget the strong Christian influence of her life.

— ● —

CHIHUAHUA

Our deep sympathy goes out to Miss Olive Givin whose mother passed away in June. Miss Givin was able to be with her mother during the last precious hours of her dear one's life.

All who know Miss Emma Eldridge rejoice to have her back in her place in Centro Cristiano after a year's furlough.

— ● —

OFTER

If you know of someone who would like to receive this little magazine MEXICO, just let us know. We want it to go to those who would find it for interest and value.

A GREAT MEXICAN TEACHER

ANDRES OSUNA.

Professor Osuna, a Methodist and a distinguished educator himself, tells this story of the achievements of another Methodist teacher.

It is not a new thing for people to honor a teacher, but when dealing with a Protestant teacher who has devoted her life to Christian education, it is a remarkable thing in Mexico.

Señora Argentina S. de Vargas was specially honored on June 21, 1952, for her 25 years as Principal of Instituto del Pueblo (our Evangelical School), and for completing 48 years of service as a teacher. This celebration took place in Piedras Negras, Coahuila, in the northern part of Mexico.

An important local paper, called LA VOZ DEL NORTE, devoted nearly all its space to the celebration, eight large pages. They published three long articles by special writers, all higly educated people, who presented Mrs. Vargas as she is, beginning with her birth, her primary schooling, her secondary and professional preparation till she became a well prepared teacher working in primary, secondary, preparatory, and commercial education. They mention the case of a gold medal she gained in Literature when she was doing her preparatory work, and the high type of scholarship she displayed in her principal studies.

When Mrs. Vargas finished her preparation, she began teaching in New Laredo, but she was soon called to Colegio Ingles, at San Luis Potosi, where she distinguished herself. Later she was contracted as a private teacher for a wealthy family in Rincon de Abasolo, Guanajuato, where she stayed only a

short time before being called to Mary Keener Institute in Mexico City, a Methodist school, where she remained till 1910. Returning to San Antonio, she worked for a time in a Business College, subsequently going to Laredo, Texas, to help the Mexican people who had left Mexico on account of the Revolution. Mexican children in need were her special interest, and she established schools for them, helping them in many ways. So important and successful was her work that later on the Mexican consuls conferred on her a gold medal.

On April 8, 1927, Mrs. Vargas went to Piedras Negras and took charge of Instituto del Pueblo. Here her task was to build up a primary school in the Institute. Her efforts were well received and the school was patronized by the public in a remarkable way until she had as many pupils as the building could accomodate. Thereupon, she decided to rent more ample quarters in the CLUB INTERNACIONAL, a large social building located near the rail-road, station, where she presently had more than three hundred children in the primary school. In the former old building she established a Business School which was so well patronized by the public that she came to have more than two hundred pupils of the best families of the city. That is why so many of the business houses of the city were ready to show her their admiration and congratulate her on her twenty-fifth anniversay as a school principal.

The celebration arranged in her honor was remarkable. On the day selected, the 27th of June, they prepared an excellent program, with good music and addresses to be delivered by radio at 10 o'clock and another program at 3:30, also by radio. These broadcasts were heard all over the city and over the North of the State, and some people sent their congratulations after hearing them.

Then they had a great banquet in the evening in the best hall of the city. Many people of the city attended, and good addresses were delivered.

The local paper, LA VOZ DEL NORTE, published expressions of appreciation on the part of the public, honoring this distinguished Lady. One was by the City Autorities, others by the bankers, the Federal Office of Finance, the Customs House Agents, and business men of various classes, merchants, former pupils, and other prominent persons. It was a noteworthy public homage.

Mrs. Vargas was highly honored, and well she deserved it for her 48 years of faithful teaching. Now she can retire well pleased and satisfied with her life work.

A LETTER

A student in the Deaconess Training School, Mexico City, tells about her work.

Dear Boys and Girls:

I am happy to write you a little about Sunday School work in Mexico. First, I want to send you greetings from the children of Holy Trinity Church which is at 5 Gante Street. Since it is a large church, the Sunday School has several departments: cradle, kindergarten, low primary and high primary. The classes have names, such as: The Prophet Daniel, Joel of Galilee, David, and The Boy Samuel. The class I teach is called Moses.

This Moses class has very small children who have just been promoted from kindergarten. It is a darling group. They are very attentive but they like to talk. It's funny to see them during the Bible story hour. They all seem to be listening when suddenly one will jump up to show off his new shoes or tell about a trip he has made during the week or about games he has played at home or at school.

Every Sunday we have contests to see which group gets first place for attendance, offering, and memorizing verses. This is a thrilling moment. I like to watch the children all opening their eyes wides as though that way they could find out sooner which class got first place.

The Moses class is the least numerous; so we never get first place for attendance or offering but we do for memorizing Bible verses. Once when they asked a child what verse he had learned, he repeated it very well but invented a new book of the Bible, for he said it was in Galilee instead of Galatians! You can imagine how all the children laughed at that. So be sure you boys and girls always learn the reference correctly. And don't fail to be reverent in church.

We have about a hundred children in the Sunday School. They are all very much interested and they love Jesus and tell about Him to their playmates at day school. May God bless you all and help you to behave better every day. I hope you will pray for the children in Mexico who do not yet know Jesus, and we shall pray for you.

Sincerely yours,

Elena Raya A.
—Tr.

ANOTHER FORD STORY

Before the day of drive-ins, a missionary in Mexico who was learning to manage a Ford, unintentionally drove right into the wide door of an open store.

"Oh, I beg your pardon," she said apologetically and hastily backed out again —without buying a thing.

LA LUZ

LYDIA MEDINA DE LAGUNA.

La Luz (The Light) was dark until someone found a New Testament. A former deaconess brings the spiritual history of her husband's village up to date.

La Luz is a small village situated on the slope of Culiacán, the higheset mountain in the State of Guanajuato. As in the case of most villages in the Mexican Rpublic, it once knew no other religion than the Roman Catholic. But about 1915, during the revolutionary period, troops of one party or the other frequently passed by this village. On one ocasion, the soldiers of Francisco Villa camped near La Luz. After they had left, a peasant found a New Testament lying there among the trash. He began to read it, liked what he read, invited some of his friends in, and they began to read it every day.

The group grew until it included all the men. They took the news to their homes, and the women began to become interested, also, even though they could not go to the meeting where the New Testament was being read. So much interest was awakened that the men desired to have the whole Bible.

At the time there was a Catholic priest living in La Luz who was the owner of a copy of the Bible. The brethren managed to get this Bible and read it. They quit attending mass, they no longer went to confession; so the priest, noting what was happening, began to try to dissuade them from their new way of life, but to no avail.

The school teacher told them that in Cortazar and Celaya there were Protestant churches and a pastor who explained the Word of God. Upon learning this, the brethren agreed to send one of their number to ask the pastor to come and visit them.

They were able to interest Brother Magdaleno Constantino who was at that time pastor of the church in Cortazar.

The pastor came and a meeting was held in a private home. This time the men took their families with them. This attracted the attention of the rest who now knew that they were Protestants. Persecution began for these little brethren in the faith. The pastor did not return to visit them, but the Word of Gord was fulfilling its mission. It had been sown in good ground and would bring forth fruit an hundredfold.

The tempestuous years of the revolution had passed when, in 1926, while Rev. Samuel O. Miranda was pastor of the church in Celaya, the brethren of La Luz again requested help. Brother Miranda was not deaf to this call and began to work systematically in the village. The church, though still young, was flourishing and giving promise of becoming a large and active group.

Meetings were held in one or other of the homes. As the group grew, so also did the persecution. But with great faith and enthusiasm the brethren began to think they must build a meeting house. A widow whose husband had been one of the first to read the Word of God donated the land. The zeal of the young pastor and the persistence of the brethren made possible the structure which is still used by the congregation. Begun in 1927, it was dedicated to the Lord in 1929 in the presence of visitors from various parts of the State of Guanajuato. Señora María Jesús C. Vda. de Laguna, the sister who donated the land for the church building, and one of our most worthy Christian women, entertained all the visitors.

The congregation was large and in need of a resident worker who could give full time to this ministry. All who visited the village were agreeably surprised at what they saw, for it was strictly rural work.

In 1932 The Women's Missionary Societies took this place as their mission field and sent there Deaconesses Herminia Gó-

mez and Concepción Flores. With laudable fervor they began to do social and evangelistic work with the women. It prospered and extended. Their visits took them into non-Christian homes where they exerted such an influence that their presence in the village seemed indispensable.

In 1937 these workers were sent elsewhere and a lone deaconess appointed in their place, Miss Lydia Medina. The same type of activities were carried on, and during this period the congregation had 170 members in full connection besides probationers, adherents and sympathizers. After being a mission field for six years the church was left without official workers.

Since this is a rural field, it is difficult to raise money enough to have a resident pastor. Numerically it is a large church, but not so financially. The brethren raise only two crops a year, and money is scarce among them. Now for twelve years the church has been without a pastor, but even so the sanctuary is never empty at service time. The Good Pastor (Shepherd) is with us.

We continue to do social and evangelistic work by means of visits or tracts. Year before last we received twelve new members into full connection and eight probationers.

How we need a resident worker among us! Although there is no parsonage, we have land for one. There are five villages near by. In some we have brethren, in others sympathizers. All we lack is the general to direct this Christian army forward to conquest. Although there is a scarcity of workers, we in La Luz are praying that God may send us one. All we seek is the glory of God.

—Tr.

ADDRESSES

Our gratitude to a few friends who have helped us correct our mailing lists. If you know of someone who no longer wants to receive the magazines for any reason, we should appreciate your advising us. Thank you!

HONORING A NATIONAL HERO

SOLEDAD GALLEGOS.

How it looked to a student of the Deaconess Training School.

On March 21, 1952, a great gathering of some 15,000 Protestants took place at the Juarez Monument in Mexico City to commemorate the 146th aniversay of the birth of the illustrious reformer Benito Juárez.

Parading down Juárez Avenue between the rows of spectators, we reached the monument which had been decorated for the ocasion, having a huge picture of the Great Patrician in the center.

The program began with an address by Att. Agapito Ramos, head of the National Defense Committee, who gave the historical background of the Reform Laws, the need for them and their success. Att. Agustín Romero López, principal of our boy's school in Querétaro, expressed the fervent desire that our government see to it that these laws are enforced, and called upon Christian people to work for the triumph of the noble ideals of the inmortal Reformer, trusting in the divine Liberator.

Enthusiasm reached its climax as the 15,000 voices united in singing the patriotic song written for the occasion by Mr. Zalathiel Jiménez, using the music of "Onward Christian Soldiers."

In this atmosphere of patriotic sentiment which united us as a sacred bond, Dr. Eleazar Guerra, Bishop of the Methodist Church of Mexico, came to the speaker's stand and gave the public not merely a persuasive oration but a message of love and freedom. He reasoned that such a noble and sublime spirit

as that of Benito Juárez could have come from no other source than of Divine Love.

Before this last discourse ended, we became jubilant at the arrival of a group from Oaxaca, dressed in their regional costumes, as representatives of the State in which Juárez was born.

This celebration demostrated to us that the noble ideals of our great reformer are becoming a reality in the Mexico of our times.

It seems unbelievable that the enslaved Mexico which the Spanish occupation bequeathed us should be able to shake off the yoke of spiritual, moral, and intellectual bondage to which it has been subjected during so many years, and today, proclaiming a new era of peace, wellbeing and progress, should rise spiritedly against the oppressors of human personality.

Beginning with March 21, 1951, Protestants in the central part of Mexico have been rendering homage to our great Patrician. Timidly at first, but with increasingly vital faith, they have thus demonstrated to the secular masses the democratic and liberty-loving spirit which all of us Christians profess.

This glorious act, of great significance for the Christian world, closed with the singing of our National Hymn, a vivid expression of our patriotism, and in our minds lingered this petition: "Lord, give us Mexico for Christ".

—Tr.

— ● —

THANK YOU

We are grateful to the following friends for donations sent in for MEXICO recently: Dr. J. P. Hauser, Dr. Eva Cutright Miss Jennie Mathias, and Mrs. Marion Wentworth.

INASMUCH

ELVIRA BAEZ M.

Dr. Baez tackles another problem in the W. D. C. S. clinic of Mexico City.

About eleven o'clock one busy morning in the clinic there appeared in the waiting room two little children. Rags covered their thin bodies. As soon as the four-year-old saw me, he began to cry uncontrollably.

"What's the matter, sonny?" I asked the little tot. "What's wrong with your little brother?" I said, turning to the eight-year-old.

"Will you cure my little brother?" he asked.

"What's wrong with him?" I inquired again.

"He got burned," replied the older child.

"Let's see," I said, taking them to the treatment room while the little one continued to sob. Carefully, but with great difficulty, I uncovered the burned region. *Poor child,* I thought, as I saw the horrible burn which spread over his whole back, part of his chest, and one arm. In some places it was bleeding, in others his dirty clothing had adhered to the skin.

As I treated him I asked questions: *Where do you live? Why did you come alone? Where's your mother? Why didn't she come with you?*

"Because my mother is in the Penitentiary," replied the older boy.

"Is she a prisoner or does she work there?" I asked.

"She's a prisoner," said the child.

"Why? What did she do?" I exclaimed.

"Nothing," replied the child.

"Nothing? Then what happened?" I queried.

"Well, we live in a tortilla shop where my mother was working. A week ago in the afternoon we were sitting in the doorway with my mother when a woman came running by. She stopped in front of us and said to my mother: "Please keep this for me. I'll be right back," and she put a package on mother's lap and ran away.

"Some men who were chasing that woman saw her stop in front of us and leave something. They stopped and took the package my mother had in her hands, opened it, and found marihuana in it. So right away they arrested my mother although she said she did not know the woman who left her the package nor what was in it.

"Six days ago they sent my mother to the Penitentiary, and since then we have been alone, living with the woman who is in charge of the tortilla shop. She gives us permission to sleep there and lets us have something to eat.

"This morning my little brother was very hungry. It was late and we had not had any breakfast. He was begging for bread and was following the woman around while she was making tortillas to sell. The atole (gruel) for our breakfast was boiling and I don't know what happened but all at once the kettle of boiling atole turned over and since my little brother was near it, it spilled on him and burned him."

Poor children, there is no hope of their having their mother with them for several years. What will happen to the poor little things?

The children returned every day for some time until the burn had healed. At first the little one cried every time he saw me, fearing the pain of the treatment. When all was ready for the treatment, he would lisp, "Forgive me! Forgive me! I'm not a bad boy."

As he got better he lost his fear and then I taught them about Christ who loves children. I tried to tell them about the way of salvation and how to trust in God who alone could bring their dear mother back to them. They learned to pray. Their little faces were transformed and they seemed happy and confident.

As last, the little one was completely healed and the children stopped coming to the clinic, but I trust that the seed sown in those little hearts may not be lost.

—Tr.

— ● —

AT THE CLOSE OF AN INSTITUTE

"Do you remember that I wanted you to come to hold meetings for us? I'm just a layman. For twenty years I've worked in this one place, and the work has multiplied greatly. We have four points on the circuit. But the work is nos so spiritual as I desire. I had wanted you to come to help us. Then the other day as I was on my way to one of the villages, my son overtook me on his bicycl, bringing me the invitation to this institute. So I hurried back and began the journey. By dawn I was here.

"Now it is the last day of the institute and God has blessed me greatly here. As I go back, you will see what God will do for us there."

WORLD FEDERATION OF METHODIST WOMEN

OLIVIA ZAPATA DE ESPARZA.

Mrs. Esparza figures prominently in women's work, both in the Methodist Church of Mexico and in interdenominational groups.

It was a privilege and honor to be named the representative of the Confederation of Women's Missionary Societies of the Methodist Church of Mexico to attend the meetings of the World Federation of Methodist Women in Berkley, California. April 15 to 21, 1952.

The impressions I received, my experiences, and the lessons learned, were deeply impressed on my heart for many reasons. for this was the first time I had had th privilege of attending meetings of an international character, where Methodist women from all over the world —Europe, Asia, Africa, Central and South America, Cuba, and North America— were present to represent the land of their birth.

I had the opportunity of learning new things about women's societies in other lands, suggestions and orientations which, once put into practice here, will serve as a stimulus to our societies in Mexico. I observed how Christian women seek in every way possible to keep alive the flame of the Gospel by means of activities in the women's societies.

Each of us delegates presented our respective reports, expressing ourselves the best we could in English, wearing on this and other occasions the distinctive dress of our different countries, which made the meetings colorful and interesting.

Some reports indicated material and spiritual advance in various countries. Others filled our hearts with a deep sadness.

Europe and Asia made us understand that we must strengthen our spiritual bonds by means of intercession for those countries which suffer because of the tragedy of war and where hate and human ambition threaten relentlessly. In these places Christians must struggle in order to exalt Christ.

We women of America must unite and express our gratitude to the Almighty because He has had mercy on us, permitting us to live in lands where we still enjoy liberty.

It was a great blessing to me to have this privilege of attending these meetings and to live for a few days with sisters from other lands, other latitudes, languages, and races; to enjoy Christian companionship, praising God in the same language, remembering that we are all daughters of one God, that we are working to extend the Kingdom in our respective countries and that, knowing Christ, we must make Him known wherever we may be.

— ● —

MONTERREY

After a few months of leave on account of ill health, Dr. Milton C. Davis is back in Mexico. On doctor's orders, he and Mrs. Davis have moved to Monterrey in order to live and work at a lower altitude for a time until Dr. Davis is completely well, which we all hope will be soon. He will continue there his work as mission treasurer. His duties as president of Union Evangelical Center are being carried on temporarily by Mr. Wesly W. Matzigkeit.

Not long before leaving Monterrey in August, Miss Helen M. Hodgson and her mother were in an automobile accident from which they escaped without major injuries. We trust that Miss Hodgson may have a refreshing furlough year.

MY MOTHER

TRINIDAD BELTRAN V.

The only daughter in the family recalls memories of her mother who was a devout member of our Gante Street Church.

To think of our mother means, for all of us children, renewing our courage to face life joyfully. She is now absent from us, or rather, we are absent from her, for thus God has willed it. But ler love and spirituality were so deep that they kindled our hearts and we remember her with great affection and esteem.

Glafira V. de Beltrán was born in a Christian home, the youngest fo seven children and daughter of a devout woman who had been converted to the Gospel and served as church visitor. In these activities, as in all her work, the daughter was the inseparable helper so that from childhood she learned Christian principles.

When it came time to have her own home, she persuaded her fiance to be married in the Protestant church. Her numerous family was her joy and life. Again and again she said. "Children give one life."

Her mother heart was as large as her convictions were firm. Only thus can one explain how, when most of the seven children were of Sunday School age, the whole family attended regularly. Because her heart was so big she shared her mother love with her unmarried sisters who lived with her.

Her companion was soon called to the life beyond and this mother was left to struggle alone with scant resources, the eldest of the children being thirteen years old and the youngest five months.

In spite of the difficulties and problems, she always had

time for everything. She sent the children to Sunday School and day school and supervised the house hold tasks which each one had to do and like it. Sundays and Thursdays she was at church with the whole group. "Our Little Boss," as some of the boys called her, had the courage to faces every task joyously. Never do I recall having heard her complain.

Mother sang while she worked, songs of her youth or her favorite hymns. When I was a child it was, "I Love To Tell the Story". Now, as I recall that her favorite verse was "He that dwelleth in the secret place of the most High shall abide under the shadow of the Almighty," I can understand why she took us to church so often.

No doubt it was her faith that gave her courage and kept her spirit gay and jovial. Her children remember the happy hours of games at home in the evenings, sometimes with her, other times without her, but always with the whole group together. This brought her satisfaction and joy, her compensation for the economic anxieties and the day's hard work. When she was especially happy she would sing at her work... grateful for the joy and unity of her family.

As I grew older I could understand how she encouraged the older boys who had to work and study at the same time. She did so without being exacting although she was a good disciplinarian, but she worked hard herself and, for love of her, they tried to excell. With the cooperation of all, the economic situation of the home began to improve without the spiritual life being neglected. Often I heard her friends, particularly the heads of families, say, "Glafira, how did you raise your children all by yourself without any one of them going astray?" And her answer was always the same: "In my Church I have found counsel, comfort, and rest." Then she always added, "God is very great."

Illness came and she appropriated the words of the Psalmist, "I will lift up mine eyes unto the hills, from whence cometh my

help." Disregarding her failing health, now that the home no longer demanded her presence constantly because the children were grown-up, she devoted herself to working in the Church as a Sunday School teacher, or as president or vice president of the Women's Society. She founded the Dorcas Society in her church and was so interested in it that she was sent as a delegate to Conference and Conventions.

When Mother became very ill, she told us again and again that we should not grieve when she left this world. Her going was very hard for us and only the faith in God which she had inculcated in us helped us accept His will.

The life of this mother is reflected in her children who are eager to do something for the Cause she served so faithfully. It is expressed in the family spirit which unites and brings them together. In each heart there is deep gratitude to God for the Mother He gave them, a mother who knew how to guide them and prepare them for life, and who planted in their hearts the seeds of Christian principles. Blessed the mother who is still our guide!

From "El Evangelista Mexicano".
—Tr.

— ● —

NOT WEARY IN WELL DOING

Miss Daphne Swartz of Chicago again spent her vacation in Mexico City this summer, giving her services to the Deaconess Training School for a few weeks. She now has quite a record for this volunteer service across the years.

DEACONESS WORK IN MEXICO

EMMA OSORIO O.

Miss Osorio has been a public school teacher and is now deaconess in the Pachuca Church.

The work of the deaconess began in the apostolic age. Hence, ever since, women who have felt called to serve, have been inspired by Phoebe (Romans 16:1,2). As evangelistic work developed, it became necessary to organize these activities and to build centers of preparation for this type of work.

In Mexico, Miss Effa M. Dunmore established the first training center for deaconesses, in the city of Guanajuato. Among the first young women to complete this preparation was my mother who was graduated in October 1915. Later, the school was moved to Mexico City, and a new epoch began which has resulted in the training of many deaconesses, among whom I have the honor to be counted.

The work of a deaconess can be a great help to the minister. While he may present the message from the pulpit, the deaconess can do personal work with those who go to the altar as seekers. She can also take charge of the religious education of the children. Sometimes she directs prayer circles, or church services, and assists in visiting the homes.

In Mexico the deaconess not only works as assistant to the pastor but at times is put in charge of a congregation or a circuit. The Women's Missionary Societies utilize deaconesses in their mission fields, and their General Secretary is always a deaconess.

The deaconess who is in charge of a rural church has plenty of work to do, puts up with inconveniences, and even renders sacrificial and heroic service at times. When there are modern

means of travel, she makes use of them. Otherwise, she travels on foot or burro or horseback. Since the topography of our country is rugged, she has to scale and descend mountains, ford rivers, and often follow mere trails. But she does it all with good will and joy, for she knows she is serving the Lord.

Many deaconesses have directed the building or remodeling of church edifices, have revived the congregations on their pastoral charge, and have even formed new congregations in places where there were none.

We thank God for this work of the deaconess, for this new type of woman who rises determined to struggle for the evangelization of Mexico. We trust she will continue to go forward as a worthy helper to the minister, at the same time developing her own work for the salvation of souls and the elevation of Mexican womanhood.

From "Antorcha Misionera".
—Tr.

ANSWERED PRAYER

ROBERTO LARA N.

Rev. Roberto Lara, pastor of Anahuac Church in Mexico City, arranged for a prayer meeting to begin at 9 p. m., May 31, 1952, as a commemoration of the anniversary of Pentecost. The following appeared in the church bulletin a week later.

Only one question was heard on the lips of our members last Sunday: Did you come to the all-night prayer meeting? You didn't? What a pity! You don't know what you missed!

The Lord prepared a heavenly banquet for us. In spite of torrential downpours all night, our church was filled with those

who came intending to stay only an hour or two but who remained until 6.30 a. m. and then went home to return for Sunday School at ten o'clock.

During PRAYER there was confession of sin to God, and some reconciliatons were achieved right then. Among the many TESTIMONIES a woman confessed that for eight years she had been absenting herself from the Church but asked God's forgiveness and promised not to go back on her Savior Jesus Christ again. At the hour for DECISIONS a young woman who was to be baptized consecrated her heart and life to God. During the season of prayer for NEEDS of the church, we asked that God would send us help for the construction of a building to house the children's church of more than two hundred boys and girls.

Next morning at eleven the pastor was called out of the women's class he was teaching to meet someone who wished to talk with him. This man said that he had been a member of this church when Brother Ignacio Diosdado Chagoyán was the pastor. In view of his happy memories of this Church, he and his relatives were ready to help with one half of the total cost of whatever building project we might have, no matter what the expense. Thus, did God answer His children. These are prayer miracles, brethren. And this is why many people have come to the Pastor asking to have another all-night prayer meeting. To God be the glory!

—Tr.

— ● —

PUEBLA

Mr. and Mrs. Charles Baumbach of Oil City, Pennsylvania, made a brief visit to their daughter Gertrude this summer. They took the girls in the hostel to their hearts, and everygone loved and enjoyed these splendid Christian people. Come again!

Miss Lulu Rawls, Apdo. 186
Miss May B. Seal, Hogar para Estudiantes, Calle 12a.

CORTAZAR, GTO.:

Miss Mamie Baird
Miss Mary Lou Santillán

DURANGO, DGO.:

Miss Ruth Byerley, Juárez 200 Nte.

GENERAL TERAN, N. L.:

Miss Anne Deavours

MEXICO, D. F.:

Mr. and Mrs. John L. Groves, Apdo. 117 Bis
Mr. and Mrs. Claude R. Kellogg, Apdo. 117 Bis
Mr. and Mrs. Wesley Matzigkeit, Apdo. 117 Bis
Miss Gertrude Arbogast, Sadi Carnot 73, Zona 4
Miss Dora L. Ingrum (on furlough)
Miss Orlene McKimmey, Mariano Escobedo 291, Zona 5
Miss Mary N. Pearson (on furlough)
Miss Ethel Thomas (on furlough)
Miss Ruth V. Warner, Sadi Carnot 73, Zona 4

MONTERREY, N. L.:

Dr. and Mrs. Milton C. Davis, Apdo. 446.
Miss Anabelle Dyck, Apdo. 446
Miss Helen M. Hodgson (on furlough)
Miss Dora Schmidt, Washington 208 Oriente
Miss Pauline Willingham, Apdo. 446

PUEBLA, PUE.:

Miss Ola Eugene Callahan, Apdo. 157
Miss Clara A. Gibson, (on furlough)

SALTILLO, COAH.:

Miss Bertha Baker, Apdo. 77

VILLANCICO NAVIDEÑO

Pastor: el Niño que ves
temblando, recién nacido,
Dios es, que mudó el vestido
por disimular Quién es.
...Hízolo Amor disfrazarse
sólo de tu bien movido,
no para estar escondido
sino para más mostrarse:
porque estando cual lo ves,
llorando Recién Nacido,
cuanto es más nuevo el Vestido
tanto muestra más Quién es...

—Fernán González de Eslava.

Un niño nos es nacido, hijo nos es dado.
—Isaías 9:6.

Printed by
Imprenta Nueva Educación
(Methodist Press)
Rev. Ignacio González, Manager
Lucerna 44, México 6, D. F.